



SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

5 January 2025 · Year C · Weekday I · Psalter II

Cathedral House, Unthank Road, Norwich, NR2 2PA

Cathedral Office: 01603 624615

Cathy Casey [weekdays 9am-1pm]

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TIMES OF CEREMONIES

Sunday 5th Jan	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD		
	9am	Mass	<i>Thomas & Caterina Marcantonio (F) +</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	3pm	Mass [1962 Rite Latin]	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Cecilia Bromley-Martin's Grandchildren</i>
Monday 6th	<i>Monday after Epiphany</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Irineu Reis + & family</i>
Tuesday 7th	<i>Tuesday after Epiphany</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Canon Matthew George (F)</i>
	5pm	Vespers	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Marion, Patrick & Ashling</i>
Wednesday 8th	<i>Wednesday after Epiphany</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Holy Souls in Purgatory</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Georgina Singundali +</i>
Thursday 9th	<i>Thursday after Epiphany</i>		
	10am	Mass	<i>Sophia Nicole Geli Lorenzo +</i>
Friday 10th	<i>Friday after Epiphany</i>		
	7.30am	Mass	<i>Deceased members of the Cara & Gorelli families +</i>
	10am	Mass	<i>Mary Kiernan (F) +</i>
Saturday 11th	<i>Saturday after Epiphany</i>		
	10am	Mass & Adoration	<i>Liam McKenna +</i>
	6pm	Mass (Anticipatory)	<i>Souls in Purgatory</i>
Sunday 12th	BAPTISM OF THE LORD		
	9am	Mass	<i>Souls in Purgatory</i>
	11am	Solemn Mass	<i>Daphne & Paddy Joyce +</i>
	4.30pm	Vespers & Benediction	
	5.30pm	Mass	<i>Pro Populo</i>

The Cathedral Church is open daily from 7.30am until 6pm

Very Revd Alan Hodgson KHS

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Cathedral Collection

£4,846.36

Loose Plate = £1,415.36

Dona = £1,728.00

Envelopes = £203.00

Standing Orders = c £1,500.00 *

*Averaged out and remains the same each week



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Thank you for your generous support and ongoing generosity.

Confessions

Tuesday: 6pm

Saturday: 10.30am

Saturday: 5.15pm

Sunday: 4.45pm

Rosary

The Rosary is prayed in the Lady Chapel.

Monday to Friday after the 10am Mass.

Divine Office

Lauds is prayed in the Precious Blood Chapel.

Monday to Friday at 9:40am.

HOLY APOSTLES CHURCH

Scarnell Road, Norwich NR5 8HT

Holy Apostle Masses for week commencing 06 January 2025:

No Holy Qurbana - please speak to Fr Jinu.

No University Chaplain Masses

12 January 2024 - 12:30 Chapel Break Hall, Harpsfield, Bowthorpe, NR5 9LG (followed by Nativity play and party)

A message from Fr Alan...

The Epiphany

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light [Isa 9:2]. This familiar reading is a forerunner to the feast of the Epiphany and speaks of a whole people who lived under physical slavery and exile who will finally see the Lord their God as he truly is - the saviour of the world. This will be their moment of 'epiphany'.

Epiphany - a moment of sudden and great revelation or realisation - is manifest in today's Gospel reading as the Magi (or three wisemen) travel to Bethlehem guided by a star. These three noble foreigners come to greet the infant Jesus with gifts of great wealth and symbolism, leaving them at the foot of the crib. However, they leave far richer and with joy in their hearts as they return to the east telling of all they had seen and heard whilst visiting this poverty-stricken family. Thus, becoming early converts and, arguably, the first missionaries of the Word.

Compare this reaction with that of Herod - upon hearing of the birth of our Saviour, he is threatened and retreats into darkness where he plots the murder of all male-born children under the age of two. A sign of cowardice often associated with bullies or men who have little self-confidence. He ruled by fear and brutality - the child would grow to rule through love and forgiveness.

This comparison must challenge us today after all these centuries - how do I react when I hear the Good News or when I experience change or growth? Do I retreat, like Herod, into the dark and yearn for 'the old days' and criticise and complain? Or do I walk in the light, embrace change and try to help in fashioning the future? Both scenarios are easy to adopt, however, one helps us to grow within our community and to be filled with joy. The other leads to an 'aloneness' and, ultimately, a spiralling sadness and solitude.

I am sure that 2025 is going to be a year of many small (and maybe not so small) moments of epiphany - how will you respond?

Holy Apostles - Earlham. Finally, after celebrating Mass at Holy Apostles and trying to get the go-ahead and the contractors to give the building a much-needed facelift, the builders have finally moved in! However, in their enthusiasm they arrived two-days early. Whilst they were asked to begin work on the 6th of January, they decided to get an early start and began work on the 2nd of January (unbeknownst to me). This has thrown Masses for this weekend into disarray as we had not planned for this scenario. Sadly, there is little option but to cancel Masses for this weekend as we lack a local venue. The worst thing is that I have not been able to communicate this to all parishioners in due course, so some will be inconvenienced.

Next week, at **Holy Apostles**, we have secured a venue, and Mass will be celebrated at **12:30** at Chapel Break Village Hall, Harpsfield, Bowthorpe, NR5 9LG. We will have disruption for three weeks, but the work was sorely needed and, hopefully, we will reap the benefits for many years to come.

'The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.'

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.
And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
Lift up your eyes all round, and see; they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall
come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring
good news, the praises of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 10-11. 12-13. Rcf. 11**

All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the river to the bounds of the earth.

The kings of Tarshish and the islands
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
the poor who have no one to help.

He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy.

‘It has now been revealed that the Gentiles are fellow heirs of the promise.’

Brothers and sisters: I assume that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy Apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation**Matthew 2:2**

Alleluia, alleluia.

We saw his star when it rose
and have come to worship the Lord.

Alleluia.

Gospel**Matthew 2:1-12**

‘We have come from the east to worship the king.’

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.’ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.’ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Next weekend (11th/12th Jan) - Andy and Mary Clark from the charity, Network for a Better World will give an update on how our donations have helped in the parish of Sitima in Malawi. More details at www.n4bw.org.uk

Hospital Mass - Mass is celebrated at 12 noon on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month in the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Chapel (Centre Block, Level 1). Our next Mass will be on **Monday 6th January** and then on **Monday 20th January**.

Mens' Spiritual Exercises, 31 March – 5 April 2025 - A 5-day version of the Ignatian Exercises offered specifically for men (whether lay or ordained). This retreat will be preached by the Benedictine Monks of St Joseph's Abbey, France. Founded in 1988, this community has retained its charism of a specific apostolate to men and of engaging them through a shortened version of the Ignatian Exercises. One-to-one direction will be offered alongside the talks. Priests are welcome to attend and concelebrate or celebrate their own Mass. For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-spiritual-exercises/>



This newsletter is sponsored by:

Love to Care
154 Dereham Road
Norwich
NR2 3AB



NEWS AND EVENTS

The Cathedral Shop and Garden Café –will re-open again at 10.30am on Monday 6th January 2025.

Thank you - for your generous donations at the tea and coffee fellowships after Mass on Sunday mornings. In November and December, we raised £116.32 for charity and £127.84 for the Parish; with £379.10 raised at the Jumble sale and Carol Service on 14th December for the Catechesis Programme. The hospitality team could always use more help, so if you would like to volunteer one Sunday a month, please email Jo Graham - stjohnfhc@gmail.com.

Are you or someone you know hurting from past abortion(s)? Rachel's Vineyard is a healing ministry for those who are suffering from the trauma of abortion. The healing weekends offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can deal with painful post-abortive emotions and receive healing. **The next Rachel's Vineyard retreat weekend in our diocese will take place on March 21st - 23rd 2025. With booking now open and a limit of 8 people per retreat, it is advisable to book early.** For more information about this retreat or to arrange a time to chat please contact Charlotte on 07958 235 270; or email to suffolk@rachelsvineyard.org.uk. Further information about Rachel's Vineyard or to find out about other retreat dates and locations please visit: <https://www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk>



INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGULAR SACRAMENTS

With all sacraments, we do try to accommodate the needs of the individual or couple seeking to celebrate in our Cathedral. However, we are bound by the Rite of the Catholic Church in terms of liturgy and music. The priest or deacon assigned to work with you will guide you as much as possible. In general, eulogies are NOT part of the Catholic rite of Funerals and, as such should be deferred to the crematorium or a suitable gathering of loved ones after the funeral.

Our Director of Music will assist you with appropriate music that matches the dignity of the service and is appropriate to the Cathedral - this will be from a choice of sacred music generally played on the cathedral organ (no pre-recorded music).

All readings in the Cathedral must come from Sacred Scripture - poems and prose that do not comply with this should be used at the reception after the service.

BAPTISMS

Infant Baptisms - baptism is the joy-filled initiation into the Christian life and is celebrated as a public event within the community. The Sacrament of Baptism takes place on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 11:30am. This is a joint celebration with up to three other families. Baptism preparation classes are held on the last Saturday of every month from 4.30pm - 5.15pm. This needs to be booked, in advance, through the parish office.

Adult Baptisms - generally take place at the Easter Vigil and conferred by the Bishop in his Cathedral. Candidates will need to undergo adult instruction classes for at least five months (usually starting in late September). Classes take place every Friday evening from 7pm - commencing in September.

Baptisms do not take place during the seasons of Advent and Lent. For all Baptism enquiries, please contact the parish office.

WEDDINGS

A minimum of 6 months' notice is required of any marriage taking place in the cathedral. Wedding couples should be resident within the parish boundaries or have some strong link to the cathedral. Please **do not** make any arrangements nor book any venue or make any concrete plans until you have secured a wedding date.

There is a three-fold requirement for marriage preparation; Catechetical and Liturgical preparation (a marriage instruction course at the cathedral toward the middle of January as well as a one-day course in Newmarket), Civil paperwork (through the townhall) as well as documentation required by the Catholic Church for the chancery and parish registers. This applies whether you are planning to be married in the Cathedral or if you plan to marry in a different location.

FUNERALS

At St John's Cathedral, funerals take place during the weekday 10am Mass. The Cathedral is generally booked through your funeral director - so please speak to them first about your needs and they will contact the Cathedral on your behalf.

Prayers for the Sick

Cathy Adams, Dr Michael Anibueze, Philippa Barnes, Ian Beyts, Jennifer Boland, Eleanor Bray, Amanda Caistor, Brenda Devany, Jonathon Fitzimmons, Sophia Gough-Solar, Mary Hatcher, Joe Heaney, Gill Horan, Paul Horan, Nancy Horner, David Jamieson, Joel McDonough, Anne O'Leary, Maria Osorio, Mary Newby, Gary Newton, Isobel O'Connor, Christopher Parish, Canon David Paul, Anthony Preston, Nicholle Sales, Reece Sales, Linda Sheppard, Christine Taylor, Peter Thorn, Mary Ward, Fr John Warrington, Peter Willets, Adrian Woods, the Wood Family, Patricia Woolley, Isobel Woolner, the Watson Family and Shane Wissner. *[GDPR compliant]*

Going into hospital? Please inform the hospital ward itself that the Catholic Chaplain is needed.